UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/45/106
7 February 1991

Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 99

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/45/755)]

45/106. Implementation of the International Plan of Action on Aging and related activities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/67 and 44/76 of 8 December 1989, and reaffirming all of their relevant provisions, particularly those which endorsed the priorities set and the recommendations made by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1989/50 of 24 May 1989,

Noting that the Economic and Social Council recommended in its resolution 1989/50 the convening of an ad hoc working group of the Commission for Social Development at the Commission's thirty-second session to monitor preparatory activities for the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Aging, 1/

Noting with concern that, although in its resolution 43/93 of 8 December 1988 it recommended that aging should be considered a priority theme in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, the resources assigned to subprogramme 7 (Aging) of section 8 (Activities on global social development issues) in the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 2/ for the Centre for Social Development and

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1/ See Report of the World Assembly on Aging, Vienna, 26 July-6 August 1982 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16), chap. VI, sect. A.

2/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/44/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat are not sufficient to implement the programme adequately and to give it the priority recommended,

Also noting with concern that the contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Aging have steadily declined since 1982, thereby reducing its resource base, and that unless this trend is reversed and the Fund strengthened, many priority requests will not be met and the implementation of the Plan of Action will be weakened where it is most needed, in developing countries,

Recognizing that the elderly are an asset to society and can contribute significantly to the development process,

Mindful of the need for innovative and effective international co-operation in the field of aging if countries are to achieve self-reliance in responding to the aging of their populations,

Recognizing also the complexity and rapidity of the aging of the world's population and the need to have a common basis and frame of reference for the protection and promotion of the rights of the elderly, including the contribution that the elderly can and should make to society,

Recalling the establishment at Dakar in 1989 of the African Society of Gerontology,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the question of aging, 3/

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the question of aging;

2. Endorses the action programme on aging for 1992 and beyond as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General;

3. Urges Member States, the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to participate in the action programme on aging for 1992 and beyond, especially in selecting targets in the field of aging, in organizing community-wide activities and in launching an information and fund-raising campaign to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Aging at the local, national, regional and global levels;

4. Endorses the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1989/50 that an ad hoc working group of the Commission for Social Development be convened at the Commission's thirty-second session, in 1991, to monitor the activities for the tenth anniversary, especially the launching of a global information campaign, and the selection of targets that might form the basis

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3/ A/45/420.

of the third review and appraisal of the Plan of Action to be made by the Commission at its thirty-third session, in 1993;

5. Invites Member States, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations to consider innovative and effective ways of co-operating on the selection of targets in the field of aging during 1991 and 1992;

6. Recommends that the Commission for Social Development give consideration to the desirability of convening, subject to the availability of funds, regional and sectoral meetings on the selection of targets in the field of aging during 1991 and 1992 and global consultations in 1993 and 1997, to coincide with the third and fourth quadrennial reviews and appraisals of the implementation of the Plan of Action;

7. Notes with appreciation the work of the recent ad hoc inter-agency meetings on aging, and recommends that inter-agency meetings on aging be convened biennially;

8. Welcomes with appreciation the rapid progress made by the International Institute on Aging, in Malta, in establishing, in close collaboration and co-operation with the United Nations system, as well as with governmental and non-governmental institutions and organizations, programmes that promote in a practical manner the implementation of the Plan of Action, particularly through curriculum development, training courses, a global survey on training and the establishment of an information network, and requests the Secretary-General, in reporting on the question of aging to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, to inform the Assembly of the activities of the Institute;

9. Takes note with satisfaction of the plans for the establishment of training institutes on aging in Argentina and Yugoslavia and in Central America and the Caribbean;

10. Requests the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to provide, within existing resources, technical assistance to the African Society of Gerontology;

11. Welcomes global fund-raising initiatives for activities in the field of aging, particularly the proposed establishment in 1991 of an independent foundation on aging under the patronage of the United Nations, to be called the Banyan Foundation, the main goal of which will be to empower the elderly in all world regions to maintain maximum independence and the ability to contribute to society in the context of the Plan of Action, thus serving as a much-needed international fund-raising vehicle for programmes for the aging world wide;

12. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to consider under the priority theme "development" the positive contributions and specific roles of elderly women in the development of their societies;

13. Notes with appreciation the support given by the United Nations Population Fund to the Aging Unit of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, and urges the Fund to maintain this commitment;

14. Notes with satisfaction the close collaboration of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, as the United Nations focal point on aging, with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in the field of aging, and encourages the Centre to continue to strengthen this collaboration;

15. Designates 1 October as International Day for the Elderly;

16. Urges Governments and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the Trust Fund for Aging;

17. Also urges Governments and non-governmental organizations to contribute human and financial resources through the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs for the co-ordination and implementation of the action programme on aging for 1992 and beyond;

18. Urges the Secretary-General to consider increasing the human and financial resources of the Aging Unit of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in order to enable it to fulfil its mandate as the United Nations focal point on aging;

19. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Question of aging".

68th plenary meeting
14 December 1990